

Abilene Weekly Reflector.

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ABILENE, KANSAS, THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 27, 1902.

NO. 24.

TAX LAW HELD VALID BY U. S. COURT.

DICKINSON COUNTY BIDDING IS UPHOLD.

State May Collect Its Taxes or Impose Penalties As It Sees Fit—U. S. Supreme Court Ruling of Importance.

The United States supreme court has upheld the constitutionality of the law passed by the legislature in 1891 authorizing counties to bid in lands which are sold for non-payment of taxes. Dickinson county was one of the first in the state to take advantage of this law and has thus bid in lands for several years.

The decision was handed down in the case brought against C. A. Parker, the treasurer of Reno county, and the county commissioners, by L. A. Bigger. The question involved was whether the county could bid in all lands sold for taxes and exclude all other bidders.

The plaintiff contended that this law was contrary to the constitution of this state and of the United States, for the reason that it abolished competitive bidding by enabling the county treasurer to bid in the whole tract, when, in fact, a public sale of the same to the highest bidder might have resulted in a sale of a portion of the tract to satisfy the whole amount of the tax due thereon; that such a proceeding was a taking of property without due process of law.

On the other hand, the county contended that there is no constitutional limitation, either state or national, upon the power of a legislature in the fixing of a mode for the collection of taxes; that the legislature has the power to provide for an absolute forfeiture of lands for the non-payment of taxes due thereon, or a competitive sale of the same, as it seems fit, the mode of collection being wholly within the discretion of the legislature.

The action was an original proceeding in mandamus commenced by Mr. Bigger against county commissioners of Reno county, Kansas, to execute and deliver to him tax sale certificates for the north half of each and every tract of land sold for taxes for the year 1899, in accordance with a bid made by him on the date of sale to the county treasurer under the provisions of the old law. The supreme court of the state of Kansas sustained the position the county took and rendered a decision declaring the law to be constitutional. An appeal was taken by the plaintiff, Mr. Bigger, to the supreme court of the United States, resulting, as above stated, in a decision in favor of Reno county. The decision is one of great importance to a great number of counties in the state that are and have been operating under this law.

Alum Baking Powders.

There are so many alum baking powders about, most of which are represented to be made of cream of tartar, that the following list of powders in which chemists have found alum will be of value:

K. C. Contains Alum
Manf. by Jacques Mfg. Co., Chicago.
Lee. Contains Alum
Manf. by H. D. Lee & Co., Salina, Kas.
P. Contains Alum
Manf. by Allen Bros. Co., Omaha.
Calumet. Contains Alum
Manf. by Calumet Baking Powder Co., Chicago
Circle C. Contains Alum
Manf. by Conrad & Co., Chicago, Ill.

The housekeeper should bear in mind that alum makes a cheap baking powder. It costs but two cents a pound, while cream of tartar costs thirty. The quality of the powder is, therefore, usually indicated by the price.

Central Committee Meets.

Chairman VanVoorst has called a meeting of the Republican central committee of the county to be held in R. B. Jacobs' office at 1 o'clock p. m. March 8.

Two Children Dead.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. White, living near Wakefield and who have often visited Mr. White's parents here, Mr. and Mrs. T. K. White, have lost two children from diphtheria within one week. The little ones died on February 11 and 16. The parents have much sympathy in their sorrow.

MEETS AT CLAY CENTER.

Fifth District Convention Will Be Held March 25.

The Republican committee of the Fifth congressional district met at Manhattan yesterday at 2 o'clock with Chairman J. B. Case of Abilene, presiding. Every county in the district was fully represented and the committee consisted of J. B. Case, of Dickinson; W. H. Smith, of Marshall; S. H. Hamilton, of Washington; W. E. Dunaway, of Clay (proxy for C. C. Coleman); B. Rockwell, of Geary; T. D. Fitzpatrick, of Saline; T. E. Hurley, of Ottawa; A. B. Kimball, of Republic; W. W. Caldwell, of Cloud; and W. S. Elliott, of Riley.

It was decided to hold the congressional convention in Clay Center at 5 o'clock p. m. Tuesday, March 25. Concordia and Clay Center both had delegations there to try and land the convention, Clay Center winning by one vote.

Among prominent would-be candidates present were Lieutenant-Governor Richter, State Auditor Cole and E. C. Culp of Salina, who is out for the auditorship.

ELABORATE RECEPTION.

Abilene Masons Do Honor to Grand Master Dewey.

About 175 Abilene Masons and their families gathered at the Masonic hall Saturday evening at the reception in honor of T. E. Dewey just elected grand master of Masons in Kansas.

H. L. Humphrey, W. M., presided and there were appreciative addresses by Rev. Dr. Blayney and Rev. F. Bergtresser with a response by Mr. Dewey. During the evening the following gave musical numbers:

Piano solos, Mrs. Herbert L. Humphrey, Miss Augusta Dewey, Miss Gertrude Cooper, Miss Pearl Johnitz; vocal solos, Mrs. Jesse F. Elston, Mrs. Herbert J. Hodge, Mrs. J. Howard Niesley, Mrs. Rollin Giffin; quartette, M. H. Malott, C. E. Rugh, H. E. Ellison, C. E. Rice.

A dainty supper was served by the ladies of the Eastern Star and the occasion was throughout one of the most enjoyable ever given in the city.

TO TEACH THE YOUNG.

City Organization of Sunday School Primary Teachers.

Twenty primary teachers, two superintendents and five visitors met in the side room of the Methodist church at 3:30 p. m. Sunday. The question before the meeting was: "Is there any thing we can do to help each other?"

After careful consideration it was voted unanimously to organize a Primary Union. Further discussion showed that plans for organization were not developed, and it was voted to meet again at 3:30 Sunday, March 2, at the Christian church, to study the Sunday school lesson for March 9—"The Disciples Scattered," Acts 8: 3-13—according to Mrs. Preusner's plans, then teach the lesson, after which further plans will be considered.

All primary teachers in the city and vicinity are urgently invited to be present, also superintendents and others specially interested, promptly at 3:30. Bring Bible, note book, pencil.

Henry Little in Tennessee.

Henry Little, who left the Democrat last fall to join a 10-20-30 cent show, has again entered the newspaper field. He is working on a paper in Pulaski, Tenn. Mrs. Little who spent some time with her mother in Arkansas is now with her husband.

WHY COUGH

Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup cures Cough or Cold at once. Conquers Croup, Whooping-Cough and Measle-Cough without fail. All mothers praise it. Doctors prescribe it for Bronchitis, Hoarseness, Gripe, Pneumonia and Consumption. Quick, sure results. Price, 25 cents. Refuse the dealer's substitute.

Dr. Bull's COUGH SYRUP
Always cures when others fail.
Dr. Bull's Pills cure Constipation, 25 cents a box.

T. E. DEWEY HONORED.

ELECTED GRAND MASTER OF KANSAS MASONS.

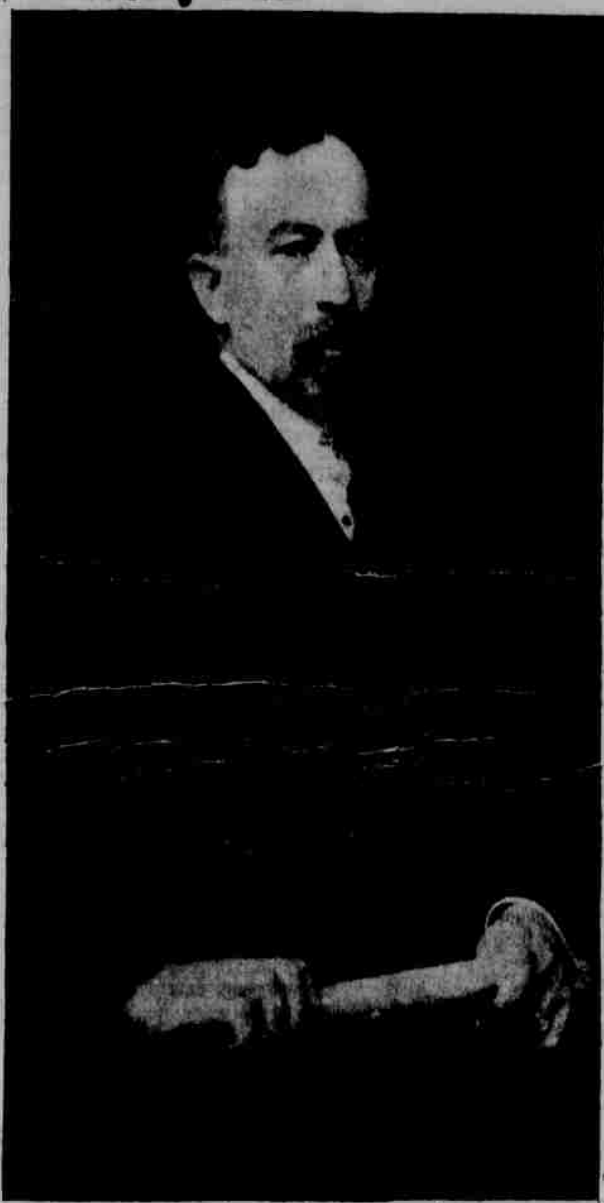
Unanimously Chosen to Fill Highest Office in State Masonic Affairs—Revs. Bergtresser and Blayney Appointed to Prominent Positions.

Special to the Reflector.

FR. SCOTT, Feb. 20.—The grand lodge of Kansas Masons in session here, this morning unanimously elected T. E. Dewey, of Abilene, grand master. Rev. F. Bergtresser has

him a Knight Templar in 1898, and he is its present Commander. His council membership is at Ellsworth, his Scottish Rite at Wichita, and his Shrine at Salina. He will represent Isis temple at the imperial council in June, at San Francisco. The supreme council of the Scottish Rite made him a K. C. C. H. at its meeting at Washington in October, 1901.

Mr. Dewey's first visit to grand lodge was as Master in 1893. He was then placed on the committee on jurisprudence, where he remained until 1898, when he was appointed grand senior deacon by Grand Master Stone. Since then he has been elevated each year and now becomes Grand Master.



THOMAS EMMET DEWEY.

been appointed grand chaplain, Dr. F. S. Blayney, Ph. D., grand orator, and Richard Waring a member of the committee on grand lodge propriety. The meeting is a successful one, over 500 delegates being present.

Thomas Emmet Dewey, who was chosen grand master of the grand lodge of Kansas at its annual communication at Fort Scott, today, belongs to the younger generation of western Masonry and has risen rapidly in the order. Mr. Dewey was initiated, passed and raised in Benevolent Lodge No. 98 in this city, in the year 1888. His first office was senior deacon in 1890, thence passing through the chairs and becoming Master in 1893. He received the capillary degrees in Cyrus Chapter No. 25, R. A. M. in 1896, serving as High Priest in 1901. Abilene Commandery, No. 25, created

The work which first gave Mr. Dewey his standing in grand lodge was performed by him as a member of the revision committee of 1897, which prepared the "Laws of Masonry," a volume of 425 pages and the most complete of its kind in existence. The index-digest, which contains 156 pages, was prepared solely by Mr. Dewey, and his name is attached to it.

The Kansas grand lodge has in making Mr. Dewey grand master honored a Mason who is worthy of this exalted position, and who will fulfill its duties with credit to himself and to the order. It is an honor especially appreciated in this city where he has been so untiring in his efforts for the upbuilding of the order. It is a matter of much pride to the Abilene Masons that one of their number is thus placed at the head of the order in the state.

NICKERSON IS HERE

Gas Well Will Now Be Put Down to Full Depth.

J. D. Nickerson arrived from Independence, Kas., and is preparing to go on with the digging of the gas well. He has spent about \$800 in securing the necessary additional cable and machinery for putting the well down the additional 240 feet to make the full 1500. He does not get his pay until this depth is reached. The well continues to flow with salt water, the past two months showing no change.

Advertised Letters.

The following is the list of unclaimed letters remaining in the Abilene postoffice for the week ending Feb. 25, 1902. Have your mail addressed to your box number and it will be promptly delivered:

GENTLEMAN'S LIST.
Christman, Alex Jones, Philip
Johnson, A C Purdy, Geo E
Riley, Dr Jas A Willson, J W

One cent will be charged for all advertised letters.

Persons calling for the above will please say "advertised" giving date.
RICHARD WARING, P. M.

Spoke at a Banquet.

The Sons of the Revolution had a banquet at Topeka Saturday night. Among the speakers was Colonel Ed. C. Little, who spoke on the "Unknown Row, or the Minor Patriots." Colonel Little feels that enough credit can not be given to such men as Samuel Otis and Patrick Henry about whom very little is known.

Colds

You first take cold, then you cough. Then you have a doctor. He says it's bronchitis, and he orders Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It is his favorite prescription for colds and coughs. If he knows of anything better, tell him to give it to you.

"I had a very severe cough for many weeks. Nothing relieved me until I tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. This rapidly and entirely cured me."
J. J. Hargrave, New York City.
25c., 50c., \$1.00. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

PRICE'S BAKING POWDER

Is the Most Economical

Greater in leavening strength, a spoonful raises more dough, or goes further.

Working uniformly and perfectly, it makes the bread and cake always light and beautiful, and there is never a waste of good flour, sugar, butter and eggs.

While it actually costs less to make a batch of biscuit with the Price Baking Powder than with the so-called cheap powders, there is the additional advantage of better and more healthful food.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

NOTE.—Alum powders should not be used, no matter how cheap they are. They induce dyspepsia, liver complaint and kidney trouble.

BURTON'S FIRST SPEECH

KANSAS SENATOR ABLY DEFENDED FUNSTON'S CAUSE.

Ben Tillman from South Carolina Ran Against His Match When He Tackled Burton—No Compromise Was Found.

Senator Burton of Kansas made his first speech in the senate Saturday afternoon. His effort was entirely extemporaneous, as he was drawn into the Philippine debate by what he regarded as a criticism of General Funston.

Mr. Tillman in his speech stated that he had been told by a soldier who served under Funston that 160 Filipinos had been punished by the so-called "water cure," and that some of them had died. He was interrupted by Mr. Burton, who inquired: "Will you be so kind as to give to the senate the name of the man who says that while he was serving under General Funston, Filipinos were brutally punished in the way that he stated? Will you please give me the name?"

"I will give this letter just as it was written to me," replied Mr. Tillman.

"Will you kindly answer my question?" asked Mr. Burton. "I believe that the world knows the history of General Funston. He fought early in Cuba to try to free Cuba from Spanish rule. He has fought in the Philippines."

"I have no objection to the senator eulogizing General Funston," broke in Tillman, "but I think we are all very well acquainted with his record. We have promoted him from a captaincy here and I know as much about General Funston as the senator from Kansas does and every senator here knows about him, but if the senator from Kansas wants to put a tribute in the Record he is perfectly welcome to do so."

"But you were making a misstatement just now, unintentionally," said Mr. Burton. "General Funston was major of the famous Twentieth Kansas regiment, and he was afterward made a brigadier general for his gallantry on the recommendation of his superior officers. He was then made a brigadier general in the regular army for serving his country so splendidly in the capture of Aguinaldo and I believe he was the only volunteer officer in that Spanish-American war who was promoted to be a brigadier general in the regular army. Before he ever was a soldier

he had won the confidence and love and admiration of the people of Kansas in civil life. He is the highest type of an American citizen and I do think that the senator ought not to make this heinous and awful charge against so brave a soldier, so splendid a man, without furnishing the evidence that bears at least indirectly or to some extent upon the truth of the charge. General Funston on more than one occasion has denied this horrible statement, and on the 2nd of this month, while in a hospital at Kansas City, he wrote a statement on this subject."

"Let us look at this language," replied Tillman. "A soldier who was with General Funston told me that he helped to administer the water cure to 160 wounded, 26 of whom died. Does that say that General Funston knew anything about it? Does it say that General Funston approved it? It simply says that a soldier who was with General Funston."

"Does the senator understand the English language well enough," asked Mr. Burton, "to know that refers to General Funston, and the necessary implication means, if it means anything, that General Funston was guilty of this atrocious brutality? What is the use of applying a subterfuge here?"

"If the senator will give me a lecture on English I will remand him to his seat until he gets his own time. I claim to know as well what is the interpretation of words as any man here," answered Tillman sharply. "It is no use for the senator from Kansas to undertake to say that this statement involves Funston. It simply says that a soldier who had been with General Funston told me certain things."

"General Funston says no such thing ever happened and brands the whole statement as a falsehood," said Mr. Burton in conclusion.

Mr. Tillman then continued his speech.

Wheat Fields Are Snow-Free.

The snow practically has gone from the wheat fields under the warm sunshine of the last few days, and the farmers are eagerly investigating the condition of the wheat. It is believed by many that the soft wheat, of which considerable was sown last fall in the hope that it would make better pasture than the hard, is badly injured by the severe freezing. The hard or Russian wheat does not show much harm. It is yet too early to determine fully, as the plant has not yet begun to grow again.